Cæsar VI. I. There is no condition more dangerous to the souls of men than to be in the Church least on the enjoyment of religion.

Those who are at ease in the Church are dangerous upon the decay of men, quickly asleep in the arms of their delusion. The wholesome truth of the Gospel are in danger of being derided neglected.

The love was addressed to the ancient Israelites, when they had become self-confident. This will apply to lukewarm Christians in every age of the world.

We are not to conclude from the language of the text, that there is no real happiness in the service of God. The genuine sons and daughters of Zion are not destitute of peace. Nay, but the love mentioned in the text, is denounced to persons of quite a different character.

1. Those who are at ease are ignorant of the fearful importance of Christian toleration.

2. We remark in the next place, that the persons described in the text, are the objects of some constitutional weakness.

3. Those who are at ease in Zion feel little or no concern for the prosperity of the Church.

4. Those who are at ease, are disposed to protract what they know to be their present duty.
II. We shall consider in the second place of the cause of the evil.

1. It may sometimes arise from the popular favor which Christianity has gained in the eyes of the world. There is but little reproach connected with religion in the present age of the world.

We do not say that the want of persecution is the cause of all the evil, neither should we seek the reproach of the world.

2. Another cause of carnal security, may arise from worldly prosperity. Religion can bear any thing better than worldly prosperity. Many men of talent have been ruined by a change of fortune.

3. Another cause may arise from a mistaken view of the practical duties of religion. Indolence is a very evil.

III. We shall notice in the last place the influence and danger of those who are at ease in Zion.

1. They are a burdenance to all who seek to be engaged in their conduct. Had it not been for the bad example of profession Christians—

2. These who are at ease in Zion are in danger of dying unrepentant—

3. They will lose their reward—